

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 ISO-00 COME-00 INT-05 L-03

FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGR-05 AID-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01

STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 /115 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ISM:ACHEWITT:LMP

APPROVED BY EB/ISM:ACHEWITT

TREASURY:BBENTON(SUBS)

COMMERCE:FSIESSEGER(SUBS)

EA/EP:MHENDERON(SUBS)

INTERIOR:CCOTTERILL(INFO)

AF/EPS:AJILLSON(SUBS)

ARA/ECP:ABERRY(SUBS)

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P R 171754Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN

SUBJECT:U.S. PARTICIPATION IN UNCTAD ,REPARATORY MEETING
ON COPPER

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REF: (A) STATE 219328, (B) KINSHASA 7348 (NOTAL)

1. ACTION ADDRESSEES SHOULD APPROACH HOST GOVERNMENT AT A APPROPRIATE LEVEL AND, DRAWING UPON THE FOLLOWING, INFORM THEM OF OUR INTENTION TO ATTEND THE UNCTAD COPPER CONSULTATION AT GENEVA SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 1, AND CONVEY THE ATTITUDE WITH WHICH WE APPROACH THAT MEETING.

2. THE USG WAS PLEASED BY THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS OF COPPER DISPLAYED DURING THE AD HOC CONSULTATION ON COPPER HELD AT GENEVA IN MARCH, 1976, AND BY THE PRAGMATIC WAY THAT CONSULTATION WENT ABOUT ITS BUSINESS INCLUDING THE FORMULATION OF A WORK PROGRAM OF STUDIES OF THE PROBLEMS OF THE COPPER MARKET INTENDED TO LEAD ULTIMATELY TO DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO THOSE PROBLEMS. WE INTEND TO APPROACH THE SEPTEMBER COPPER CONSULTATION WITH THE SAME POSITIVE AND PRAGMATIC SPIRIT THAT CHARACTERIZED OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE MARCH CONSULTATION, AND WE HOPE OTHERS WILL DO LIKEWISE.

3. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE UNCTAD COPPER CONSULTATION MAY BE ATTENDED BY A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS HAVING LITTLE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT COPPER AND NO SUBSTANTIAL STAKE IN IT EITHER AS PRODUCERS OR CONSUMERS. THESE GOVERNMENTS MAY SEEK GOALS OF THEIR OWN HAVING NOTHING TO DO WITH COPPER WITH ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE INTERESTS OF BOTH COPPER PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS. WE FEEL THE REASON THE MARCH CONSULTATION WAS SUCCESSFUL WAS THAT ATTENDANCE WAS LIMITED TO GOVERNMENTS WITH A SUBSTANTIAL STAKE IN COPPER AND CONSIDERABLE EXPERT KNOWLEDGE WITH REGARD TO IT. WE WOULD HOPE THAT THOSE GOVERNMENTS WHICH ATTENDED THE MARCH CONSULTATION WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY THE LEADING ROLE DURING THE GENEVA MEETING, DIRECTING IT TOWARDS PRACTICAL AND ACHIEVABLE GOALS.

4. WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED THAT THE WORK PROGRAM DECIDED UPON BY THE MARCH CONSULTATION MAY FALL BY THE WAYSIDE DUE TO UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE STANDING OF THE MARCH MEETING AND ITS CONCLUSIONS. IF THIS SHOULD OCCUR, MORE TIME WILL BE LOST IN A PROCESS WE CONSIDER TO BE AN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ESSENTIAL PRECONDITION TO MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS ABOUT ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE COPPER MARKET. THE USG HAS COMPILED A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF OVER 125 USG PAPERS OR STUDIES ON RELEVANT ASPECTS OF THE COPPER INDUSTRY AND MARKET, AND HAS BEGUN TO COLLECT THE MOST IMPORTANT ITEMS IN THIS LIST. WE HAVE ALSO LAUNCHED SEVERAL MAJOR STUDIES OF ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM NOT ADEQUATELY COVERED BY WORK ALREADY DONE. WE HOPE THAT ON

OF THE CHIEF RESULTS OF THE SEPTEMBER COPPER MEETING AT GENEVA WILL BE TO RE-AFFIRM THAT WORK PROGRAM AND PROVIDE FOR ITS COMPLETION.

5. WE NOTICED AT THE MARCH COPPER MEETING THAT A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING SOME PRODUCER GOVERNMENTS WITH A VITAL INTEREST IN COPPER, WERE REPRESENTED BY GENEVA-BASED PERSONNEL WITH LITTLE OR NO EXPERT KNOWLEDGE ABOUT COPPER, AND WITH LESS THAN A FULL UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS INTERESTS AND GOALS. WE PLAN TO SEND A STRONG AND WELL-BRIEFED DELEGATION TO GENEVA FOR THE SEPTEMBER COPPER MEETING, AND WE HOPE OTHER GOVERNMENTS WILL DO LIKEWISE.

6. FOR KINSHASA AND LUSAKA: AS INDICATED IN REF B DELEGATES OF ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA TOOK A PRAGMATIC VIEW DURING THE MARCH MEETING AND WERE ABLE TO PLAY A MODERATING ROLE AT SEVERAL CRITICAL POINTS IN THE DISCUSSIONS. WE HOPE THEY WILL CONTINUE TO HOLD TO A MODERATE LINE, AND TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THE DIALOGUE.

7. INFO ADDRESSEES MAY INFORM GOVERNMENTS OF THIS USG APPROACH TO PRODUCER GOVERNMENTS, AND MAY DRAW UPON THE ABOVE DURING CONVERSATIONS WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. BOTH ACTION AND INFO ADDRESSEES SHOULD REPORT REACTIONS. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COPPER, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE230744
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ACHEWITT:LMP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760352-0676
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760947/aaaaboat.tel
Line Count: 142
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 219328, 76 KINSHASA 7348
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. PARTICIPATION IN UNCTAD ,REPARATORY MEETING ON COPPER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TAGS: EMIN, ECON, CG, US, UNCTAD
To: KINSHASA JAKARTA LIMA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006